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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Attorney Docket No. 017309/0173**

In re patent application of

Josef Otto RETTENMAIER

Serial No. 09/380,731

Filed: September 13, 1999

For: ANCILLARY FILTERING AGENT



Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: S. Kim

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir.

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 12, 2000, restricting the pending claims into one of Groups I, II, and III. Applicant hereby elects Group I for prosecution in the subject application. The Examiner has indicated Group I includes claims 1 to 14. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14 are now drawn to the invention of Group I, hereby elected for prosecution.

Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the non-elected subject matter.

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Receipt of an Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

July 12, 2000  
Date

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